

**IN THE ABSTRACT**

The present invention provides a method of handling a structure, such as a reactor pressure vessel, and an equipment effor handling the structure which can makereduces the swing of the structure to be transported small when the structure in a reactor building is curried is carried out from athe nuclear reactor building and/or when the structure is carried into the nuclear reactor building from the outside of the nuclear reactor building. A lifting machine is provided on a beam such that it does not pass over the spent fuel pool in the nuclear reactor building.

~~—— The method of handling a structure in accordance with the present invention comprises the steps of setting a beam outside a building inside of which a reactor pressure vessel is installed, the beam passing above the reactor pressure vessel and crossing over the building; setting a lifting machine having a lifting device for lifting an object to be lifted onto the beam, the lifting machine being moved on the beam; carrying in a shield for shielding radioactive rays radiated from the reactor pressure vessel into the building through an opening portion provided in a roof of the building; carrying out the reactor pressure vessel inside the building together with the shield upward through the opening portion using the lifting device; moving the lifting machine holding the reactor pressure vessel on the beam until a position where the building does not exist below the reactor pressure vessel; and lifting down the reactor pressure vessel using the lifting device to mount the reactor pressure vessel~~

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~~onto a transporting machine.~~